

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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2003

VIA _____
(Specify Air or
Sea Pouch)

DISPATCH NO. HUL-A-1154

RYBAT/PBSUCCESS/SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

16 JUN 1954

DATE _____

TO AGOS, Guatemala City

FROM LINCOLN

INFO Washington

SUBJECT { GENERAL
SPECIFIC Propaganda Matters
Radio Station TGWA

REF: HUL-W-467, 10 June 1954 (Not sent to Guatemala City)

1. There follows a report received by Headquarters from FBID and forwarded to LINCOLN in the reference dispatch:

"TGWA, Guatemala City, the official short-wave station of the Guatemala Government has not been heard since its broadcast of 20 May 1954. A thorough search of all short-wave broadcast bands indicates clearly that the transmitter (which is normally well heard) has been taken off the air. The reason for this silence is not known, but it does not necessarily result from political causes. Technical reasons seem more probable.

"TGWA utilizes a rather old transmitter (power output 10 KW) which in recent years has disappeared from the air for prolonged periods as a result of equipment failures. FBID has just obtained, through privated channels, a current official document from the radio station which mentions that a new high-power (50 KW) short-wave transmitter is about to be installed. It is entirely possible that this work is now underway and that space of other requirements have necessitated the removal of the old transmitter from the building to make way for the new one. It is also possible that another of the frequent breakdowns has occurred in the old transmitter.

"The TGWA document also stated that a new 50 KW medium-wave (i.e., standard broadcast band) transmitter will be installed. Since the medium-wave is not normally audible to FBID, the operating status of that transmitter cannot be determined by our monitors; however, it is improbable that simultaneous equipment breakdowns would occur, and illogical that the Government would remove its program from the air totally for new equipment installation, at least without public announcement, which certainly would have been intercepted by FBID on 20 May."

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2. It is requested that you check this information and forward the results of your investigation.

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JEROME C. DUNBAR

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OSVINCENT/d

16 June 1954

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